



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Yushi HORIUCHI et al.
 Title: SILICON/SILICON CARBIDE COMPOSITE AND PROCESS FOR
 MANUFACTURING THE SAME
 Appl. No.: 10/023,799
 Filing Date: 12/21/2001
 Examiner: A. Bahta
 Art Unit: 1775

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 CFR §1.56

Mail Stop ISSUE FEE
 Commissioner for Patents
 PO Box 1450
 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

Submitted herewith on Form PTO/SB/08 is a listing of documents known to Applicants in order to comply with Applicants' duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56. A copy of each listed document is being submitted to comply with the provisions of 37 CFR §1.97 and §1.98.

The submission of any document herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or that such document is considered material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56(b). Applicants do not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any document which is determined to be a *prima facie* art reference against the claims of the present application.

12/18/2003 CCHAU1 00000078 10023799
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TIMING OF THE DISCLOSURE

The instant Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the mailing date of either the final action under 37 CFR §1.113, a notice of allowance under 37 CFR §1.311, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application. Accordingly, pursuant to 37 CFR §1.97(d), a statement and fee are required.

RELEVANCE OF EACH DOCUMENT

The foregoing documents came to Applicants' attention during a search of the corresponding European application. A copy of the European Search Report setting forth the portion of each reference considered relevant by the examiner is attached.

Documents B2 and B3 claim priority based on the same first-filed application.

An English translation of the foreign-language document is not readily available. However, the absence of such translation does not relieve the PTO from its duty to consider the submitted foreign language document (37 CFR §1.98 and MPEP §609).

Applicants respectfully request that any listed document be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO/SB/08 be returned in accordance with MPEP §609.

STATEMENT

The undersigned hereby states in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(1) that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three (3) months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement and that the

communication was not received by an individual designated in § 1.56(c) more than thirty (30) days prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

FEE

A fee in connection with submission of an information disclosure statement under 37 CFR §1.97(d) in the amount of \$180.00 in accordance with 37 CFR §1.17(p) is attached.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 CFR §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

Date December 17, 2003

By Richard L. Schwaab

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Substitute for form 1449B/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

DEC 17 2003
Date Submitted: December 17, 2003
(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of 1

Complete if Known

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| Application Number | 10/023,799 |
| Filing Date | 12/21/2001 |
| First Named Inventor | Yushi HORIUCHI |
| Group Art Unit | 1775 |
| Examiner Name | A. Bahta |
| Attorney Docket Number | 047297-0126 |

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | U.S. Patent Document | | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear |
|--------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|-----------------------------------|---|--|---|
| | | Number | Kind Code ² (if known) | | | |
| B1 | 6,051,096 | | | NAGLE ET AL. | 04-18-2000 | |
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Foreign Patent Document | | | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Documents | Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear | T ⁶ |
|--------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------------|--|--|---|----------------|
| | | Office ³ | Number ⁴ | Kind Code ⁵ (if known) | | | | |
| | B2 | DE | 2 131 792 | | SIGRI ELEKTROGRAPHIT GMBH | 12-28-1972 | | |
| | B3 | GB | 1 360 920 | | SIGRI ELEKTROGRAPHIT GMBH | 07-24-1974 | | |
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NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

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|--------------------|-----------------------|--|----------------|
| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.) date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published. | T ⁶ |
| | B4 | Patent Abstracts of Japan, Vol. 1999, No. 11, 09/30/1999, JP 11-147779, 2 June 1999. | |
| | B5 | D. Shin et al., "Silicon/Silicon Carbide Composites Fabricated by Infiltration of a Silicon Melt into Charcoal", Journal of the American Ceramic Society, American Ceramic Society, Vol. 82, No. 11, November 1999, pages 3251-3253. | |
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Examiner Signature

Date Considered

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ²See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document.

⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.